

Washington, D.C. 20505

Intelligence Community Staff

DCI/IC 78-3877

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Mr. Edward R. Jayne, III
Associate Director for National Security
and International Affairs
Office of Management and Budget
Washington, D.C. 20503

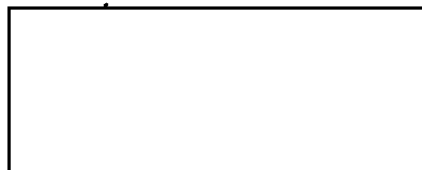
Dear Randy:

In recent letters to Chairmen Mahon, Giaimo, Magnuson and Muskie, OMB provided additional mission-oriented R&D data with respect to the FY 1979 Budget Authority Estimate. These data apparently were provided by OMB as supplementary efforts to meet requirements of Section 601 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974. I am concerned about the direct linkage of R&D dollar levels to NFIP program titles (i.e., GDIP, cryptologic programs) in your data submissions.

Over the past few months, the Congress has actively considered the question of keeping the intelligence budget classified. As you recall, the President's guidance to Admiral Turner was that efforts to declassify national intelligence budget data by the Congress would probably continue and that we in the Executive Branch should hold the line on maintaining a classified budget. Initiatives to declassify should come from the Congress, not from us.

While I applaud your effort to provide better budget aggregates to Congress for use in considering the Administration's budget, I am concerned that we exercise the proper degree of caution in protecting budgetary information which should remain classified. I stand ready to assist you and your staff in assigning the appropriate classification to intelligence data contained in future correspondence with the Congress. I assure you that the DCI is in favor of using the lowest level of classification consistent with the President's guidance and with protection of sources and methods of intelligence activities.

Yours sincerely,



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